

'Ensuring that England's rural communities receive their fair share of funding.'

Countryside Communities is a joint initiative between Community Fund and the Countryside Agency. It aims to ensure that England's rural areas receive their 'fair share' of funding.

It will deliver an extra £10 million to eight rural areas. It will also raise awareness of existing funding that rural communities across England can benefit from.

Countryside Communities areas:

- Shepway, Kent
- Dover, Kent
- King's Lynn and West Norfolk
- Fenland, Cambridgeshire
- North Norfolk
- Boston, Lincolnshire
- West Lindsey, Lincolnshire
- Sedgemoor, Somerset
- *Strategic Grants (projects in three or more England regions)

We selected the eight areas based on analysis of both deprivation indices and low levels of Community Fund funding. We want to encourage innovative and practical projects to help revitalise our rural communities.

Examples of recent rural grants:

'Thanks to this grant we can do something very practical about isolation and social exclusion.' – Oz Osborne WestDEN Director. WestDEN provides employment, training advice and support for young people. WestDEN/£149,000

'The woodwork trainees made it using huge pieces of oak and using old fashioned methods. When they finished the whole village turned out for a barn raising ceremony. They were so proud – it gave them a real sense of achievement.' – Sue Wiggans. Branching Out is a training centre for people with learning difficulties. Branching Out/£138,601

If you have a project in mind and think that Countryside Communities could help you, here's how to find out more...

- request a *Countryside Communities* publication from your local Community Fund or regional Countryside Agency office. Please phone the numbers below for more details.
- visit our websites: www.community-fund.org.uk or www.countryside.gov.uk or
- phone: 020 7747 5299 Community Fund enquiries line 01242 521 381 – Countryside Agency information line









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